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PATENT

Practitioner's Docket No.: 111_005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

JEFFREY T. HARVEY

Ser. No.: 09/768,996

Filed: January 24, 2001

For: RAISED TERRACE FLOOR USING SMALL PAVING BLOCKS

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

August 28, 2002

Art Unit: 3637

Examiner: TRAN A, PHI DIEU N

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail addressed to Box Non-Fee Amendment, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231, on August 28, 2002.

Susanne C. Aregano

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated May 28, 2002, Applicant wishes to amend the subject application as follows:

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 18, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Turning now to Figs. 4-6, a series of rectangular grate panels 50 are mounted so that the four corners of each panel rests upon the top surface of four pedestals that reside in adjacent rows and columns. The pedestals are spaced apart in the rows and columns on equal centers so that the corners of the panels come together at the center of the pedestals to establish a subfloor. The pedestals in the outermost rows and columns may be cut along the center axis of the row or column so that the edges of the edge pedestals 53 (Fig. 4) are parallelly aligned with the outer edges of the overlying panels. In this way, the panels can be brought in close alignment with the sidewalls of a terrace or balcony that form the perimeter of the substructure. Preferably, the panels are placed in edge to edge contact upon the pedestals or alternatively, a cruciform joint divider can be used to help space and align the grate panels in assembly. The grate panels can be made of any suitable material such as steel, aluminum, plastic or fiberglass, depending upon the specific deck application and its intended load carrying capability. Each grate panel contains a series of perforations 52-52 that pass downwardly through the top and bottom